

People's Voice.

VOL. II.

WELLINGTON, SUMNER COUNTY, KANSAS, FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1892.

NO. 47.

25c.

THE VOICE

UNTIL AFTER THE
ELECTION FOR + +
ONLY 25 CENTS.

We hope every friend of the paper will send us in a club of new names from his vicinity.

IF WE WOULD WIN
WE MUST WORK.

Read the People's party declaration and platform. Read it well and ponder over it.

When gold is at the highest price, farm products and labor are dragging along at the very lowest. Why is it so?

We are going to send the Voice till after the November election for 25c. See that all your neighbors take it through this momentous campaign.

Geo. T. Anthony says "true patriotism is partisanship." Lincoln said "the who serves his country best serves party best." Lincoln put party first. Things have got badly turned around in these latter days.

Kansas Republicans in their platform favor government control of telegraph and telephones. The People's party used to be a little timid and stopped at that notch once. The Republicans are camping on our trail. If they don't choose to eat those words like they did on free silver, who knows but that they may be demanding government ownership next.

The People's party will carry Oregon, Washington, Montana, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and perhaps Texas and Arkansas, with a good fighting chance for several other states. Stranger things have happened than the election of president by the People's party in 1892.

"The hope of the country," says the *Christian Standard*, "is in independence—in the development of a large body of citizens who are so free from party spirit that they can see straight and think clear, and who have no fear of the party lash." This sterling religious paper should be followed by other journals of its class in breaking down the wall of partisan prejudice which keeps the people from seeing the trend of the times.

There will soon be large quantities of surplus wheat straw in Kansas and Missouri. Why didn't the People's party convention demand that the government coin this straw into legal tender dollars?

The above brilliant paragraph emanates from the editorial columns of the *Kansas City Journal*. A paper of the accredited dignity enjoyed by the *Journal* which would permit such slush as the above to appear in its columns ought to come down from its lofty perch. The boy who wrote that ought to be treated by the *Journal* company to a nickel's worth of candy. If we had a "devil" in our establishment that would perpetrate such stuff we would kick him down the back stairs. If we were looking for some substance of no intrinsic value to coin into money we would tackle the penny-a-liners in the *Journal* office the first thing.

To see the unanimity with which the press of the country now denounce the Pinkerton system, one would not think that Congressman Tom Watson and Jerry Simpson had to pursue such filibustering tactics to get congress to even notice the move toward abolishing it. Even the rampant *Topeka Capitalist* says:

"Down with the Pinkerton system. It is time this organization of anarchy and assassination were crushed out of existence."

But they are all going off half-cooked now. When they shall have heard from "headquarters" we predict they will be eating their own words and defending the Pinkertons, as they did on silver coinage.

A. G. Haltiwanger keeps the kind of drugs, medicines and materials in his line that are a necessity to farmers. See him for prices, in the opera house block.

GEN. JAMES B. WEAVER.

Our neighbor across the way is nearly beside himself because the People's party has nominated General James B. Weaver as its standard bearer, and in his rage dishes up a half column of the usual billingsgate, calling him a "hoary chestnut," "back-number," "office-seeker," "unsalable goods," etc. Considering that Weaver has thrice been to congress on issues confessedly unpopular, carrying each time his own home county by large majorities, does not argue him to be so terribly "unsalable" after all.

In one respect he was absolutely "unsalable." Wall street has utterly failed to get him—and when she fails silence will be encouraged in Satan's household.

Gen. Weaver ran for president in 1880, but did not expect to be elected, and as this is about the only hopeless race he ever ran, he is not such a political failure after all. The *Monitor* confesses that the principles for which Weaver stood then are the same as now, although in the same article it characterizes them as "the various vagaries and isms." Weaver has truly been consistent through all the ups and downs of third party efforts and whether under this or that party name, whether the prospect was dark or bright, he has steadfastly borne aloft with all the vigor of his physical strength and giant intellect the great principles which make gold-bug monopolists tremble. While other men have been wandering off after the golden calf, selling the confidence imposed in them by their constituents and dragging their government down into the steep of infamy and depths of despair, General James B. Weaver has been the one bright star in the political universe. Nobody has ever had to inquire where Jim Weaver stood on the present live issues agitating the people. He was fixed as firm as the rock of Gibraltar.

Greenbackism, did you say? Well, if there is any one in the People's party who thinks otherwise it is time he was getting his eyes open. The "various vagaries and isms" mentioned by the *Monitor* mean nothing more than the great principles of "greenbackism" supported by reforms suggested and made imperative by the progress of the gold standard and corporation period through which we have been traveling for the past twenty-five years. We have now arrived at the period when it is necessary to demand government ownership of the national highways, restoration in alien land holdings, income tax, etc. The issuance of money by the government direct to the people has always been a tenet of reform parties. The movement for these principles has been ebbing and flowing like the ocean tide since the war, each succeeding flow finding largely increased numbers of American freemen on the shores of truth. The present flow bids fair to inundate the land and if the people can only be induced to avail themselves of the full privileges of the invention of printing the flood will be upon us and humanity will have taken a bigger stride toward true freedom than we have ever dreamed of.

Because Gen. Weaver has stood for these principles through thick and thin as immovable as the pyramids of Egypt, he is reproached as an office-seeker. The Voice would doff its hat to Gen. James B. Weaver as the greatest philanthropic hero of the nineteenth century. Hurrah for Gen. James B. Weaver.

There is no denying the fact that a considerable number of people throughout the country, not connected with the railways, favor the control of the railways by the government, and it is just certain that this sentiment is largely the result of strikes, lockouts and other forms of conflict between the managers and the men in the railway service, and unless something is done to stop these harassing and costly occurrences, the sentiment will grow and spread until it makes itself felt in the action of the government.—*Wichita Eagle*.

So long as railway managers strive to make their roads pay good dividends and so long as railway employees demand good wages, there will be a clash of interest there which will inevitably result in occasional "strikes, lockouts and other forms of conflict." When the government owns the roads, they will cease, railway employees will get better wages, the public will get better and far cheaper service. The supreme court has held that railways are national highways and we are standing in our own right when we as a nation depend on the caprices of private capital to supply this indispensable link in our national commerce.



ON TO VICTORY.

THE PLATFORM.

Assembled upon the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the People's party of America, in their first national convention, invoking upon their action the blessing of Almighty God, puts forth, in the name and on behalf of the people of this country, the following preamble and declaration of principles:

The conditions which surround us best justify our co-operation, we meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot-box, the legislatures, the congress and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized; most of the states have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are largely subsidized or muzzled; public opinion silenced; business prostrated; our homes covered with mortgages; labor impoverished, and the land concentrating in the hands of the capitalists. The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self-protection; imported pauperized labor beats down their wages; a hireling standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions. The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes for a few, unprecedented in the history of mankind and the possessors of these, in turn, despise the republic and endanger liberty. From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice, we breed the two great classes—tramps and millionaires.

The national power to create money is appropriated to enrich bondholders; a vast public debt, payable in legal tender currency has been funded into gold bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burdens of the people.

Silver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold, by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor, and the supply of currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents, and is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once, it forebodes terrible social convulsion, the destruction of civilization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism. We have witnessed for more than a quarter of a century the struggles of the two great political parties for power and plunder, while grievous wrongs have been inflicted upon the suffering people.

We charge that the controlling influences dominating both these parties have permitted the existing dreadful conditions to develop without serious effort to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore in the coming campaign every issue but one. They propose to drown the outcries of a plundered people with the uproar of a sham battle over the tariff, so that capital, corporations, national banks, trusts, watered stock, the demonetization of silver and the oppressing of the usurers may be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, lives and children on the altar of Mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption from the millionaires.

Assembled on the anniversary of the birthday of the nation and filled with the spirit of the grand generation who established our independence, we seek to restore the government of the republic to the hands of "the plain people," with whose class it originated. We assert our purpose to be identical with the purposes of the national constitution; to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

We declare that this republic can only endure as a free government while built upon the love of the whole people for each other and for the nation; that it cannot be pinned together by the bayonet; that the civil war is over, and that every passion and resentment which grew out of it must die with it and that we must in fact, as we are in name, be one united brotherhood of freemen.

Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in this world; our annual agricultural productions amount to billions of dollars in value, which must within a few weeks or months be exchanged for billions of dollars of commodities consumed in their production; the existing currency supply is wholly inadequate to make this exchange; the results are falling prices, the formation of combines and rings, the impoverishment of the producing class. We pledge ourselves that if given the power, we will labor to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation, in accordance with the terms of our platform.

We believe that the powers of government—in other words, of the people—should be expanded (as in the case of the postal service) as rapidly and as far as the good sense of an intelligent people and the teachings of their experience shall justify, to the end that oppression, injustice and poverty shall eventually cease in the land.

While our sympathies as a party of reform are naturally upon the side of every proposition which will tend to make men intelligent, virtuous and temperate, we nevertheless regard these questions, important as they are, as secondary to the great issues now pressing for solution, and upon which not only our individual prosperity, but the very existence of free institutions depend; and we ask all men to first help us determine whether we are to have a republic to administer before we differ as to the condition upon which it is to be administered; believing that the forces of reform this day organized will never cease to move forward until every wrong is remedied and equal rights and equal privileges securely established for all men and women of this country.

THE DECLARATION.

We declare therefore—
First—That the union of the labor forces of the United States this day consummated shall be permanent and perpetual; may its spirit come into all hearts for the salvation of mankind.

Second—Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent, is robbery. "If any will not work, neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies are identical.

Third—We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations will either own the people or the people must own the railroads and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads, we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the character, so as to prevent the increase of

the power of the national administration by the use of such additional government employees.

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and without the use of banking corporations, a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed 2 percent per annum, to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax.

We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all state and national revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

TRANSPORTATION.

Transportation being a method of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

The land, including all the natural resources of wealth, is the heritage of the people and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

REPUBLICAN BRIGADIERS.

There is a flutter among the penny-

aline political writers of the Kansas Republican press just now because the People's party saw fit to put a confederate soldier on the state ticket.

In order to show the inconsistency of the "gang" the *Advocate* compiles the following list of transgressions of the same sort by the Republican party. There seemed to be no guile in "brigadiers" who acted with the Republican party:

The Republican party was the first to recognize the confederate brigadiers by federal appointment. President Grant (twenty years ago) appointed Brigadier General Amos T. Akerman, of Georgia, to a seat in his cabinet, that of attorney general, to construe the constitution and expand the law for the people of the United States, and a Republican senate confirmed the appointment.

President Hayes appointed General Key, of Tennessee, postmaster general, and every Republican postmaster in the United States, who was commissioned under Hayes' administration, received his commission signed by the confederate brigadier, General Key.

They appointed Judge Hughes United States judge, for the district of Virginia, a position for life. He was an original secessionist, and the editor of a secession paper.

They appointed John S. Mosby, a guerrilla, to a foreign mission.

They appointed Thomas Settle, of North Carolina, district judge of the United States, a life office. He was an out and out secessionist, and an officer in the rebel army. He was afterwards made minister to Peru, representing this government abroad. He was president of the Republican national convention in 1872 that nominated Grant.

They appointed Governor Holden, of North Carolina, postmaster at Raleigh. He was an officer in the rebel army.

They appointed James L. Orr, of South Carolina, minister to Russia. He was an officer in the rebel army and a leading secessionist.

They appointed Colonel Northrup, of South Carolina, United States district attorney. He was an officer in the rebel army.

They appointed Major Morris United States marshal. He was a distinguished officer and scout in Gen. Lee's command.

They appointed G. W. Hunt United States marshal. He was a rebel officer in Gen. Hardy's command.

They appointed Thomas Walters United States attorney of Mississippi. He was a rebel officer in Gen. Longstreet's command.

They appointed General Green Chandler United States district attorney in the place of Walters. Chandler was a prominent rebel officer.

They appointed Colonel G. W. Henderson United States revenue collector. He was a prominent rebel officer in General Chamber's division.

They appointed General Longstreet surveyor of the port of New Orleans, and have fairly covered him with honors whenever they had a chance. General Longstreet was one of the leading confederate generals.

They appointed Col. William H. Hugh a United States district judge. He was a rebel officer.

They appointed Judge Humphrey one of the judges of the supreme court of the District of Columbia. He was a rebel officer.

This is only a partial list of the number of rebel brigadiers recognized by the Republican party in Virginia, and many others that might be mentioned.

GORE TOWNSHIP.

Delegates Selected—Ringing Resolutions.

Agreeable to a call by the central committee of the north precinct of Gore township, the people met at Star school house at 8:30 p. m., on Saturday, July 9, 1892, to elect delegates to the People's convention to be held in Wellington on Saturday, July

16, 1892. The following delegates were selected: C. H. Russell, F. C. Schapper, K. H. Miller, A. D. Russell, Central committeeman, Wm. Russell.

After the usual business of the evening, a resolution, indorsing the state and national platform, was unanimously adopted.

A resolution censuring the unfair means employed by both the old parties in misrepresenting the aims and principles and asking all fairminded men to investigate our principles and the acts of our officers, both in county, state and national and if any crookedness can be found, to publish it and we will denounce the offender and do all we can to bring him to justice. If they have done their duty, as we think they have and of whom we are proud, don't praise them; far from that; for that, from their dirty sheets, is scandal and their silence is the grandest tribute paid to their honor and faithful service.

A resolution of thanks to Lyman Naugle and co-workers in our cause, for the able manner in which they present facts as they are and let light shine on cliques and rings, who make unwarranted drafts under cover of legal rates and time on our treasury, which must be replenished by additional taxes.

Resolved, That the *People's Voice* be sent a copy of these resolutions for publication.

Attest: H. R. MILLER, Treas. Com.
A. D. RUSSELL, Sec.

The *Emporia Gazette* thinks the shylarks have played a mean trick on the calamities by raising a big wheat crop and paying three dollars a day to harvest hands.—*Wichita Eagle*.

It is a remarkable piece of blasphemy the Republican party would like to play on the people just now in claiming credit for the bountiful harvests. Having the gall to make such claims, consistency would demand their shouldering the responsibility of the droughts also, but they kick like a bay steer when any one squints that way. To a thoughtful man, the bountiful crops, for which we are under obligations to God, are only an exemplification of the faults of government. God has done his part, but man has failed. With such plenty produced all mankind ought to be happy and would be happy were it properly distributed; but the trouble is there is a class of monopolistic hogs who manage to absorb the entire surplus each year and add it annually to their bank account. They do not produce anything themselves from one year's end to another, but spend their leisure conniving and planning to steal the surplus from those who do labor and produce. It matters not whether much or little farm products is harvested. The farmer as a rule has only his living left and the consumer has to pay his extravagant tribute to the "hogs" just the same. There is a point in this which will survive all the confusion Republican orators and newspapers can make out of the big harvests. Always bear in mind that we are under obligations to God and not to the Republican party for good seasons and the only thing the Republican party is responsible for is lack of a fair profit for your industry.

The paper that boastfully laid no claims to "charity" after the cyclone gulped down \$250 from the general relief fund just the same on top of its \$2000 insurance, same as the balance of us.